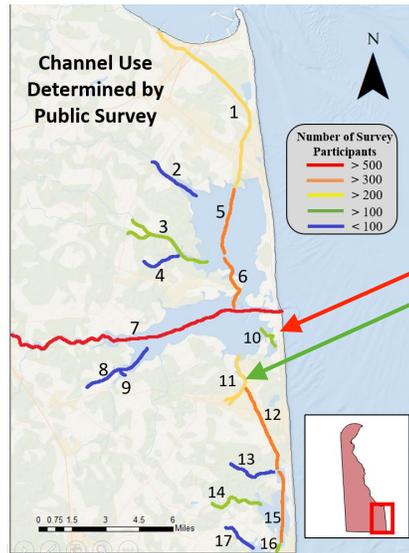


August, 2020

# Report from State of Delaware to Quillen's Point re: Channel Dredging

QPHA Board Vice President Ann Mellish conducted an email exchange in August, 2020 with Jesse Hayden, of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC)'s Division of Watershed Stewardship Shoreline and Waterway Management Section. The subject was DNREC's 2019 study of potential channel dredging projects. The state conducted a survey about those priorities, in which between 100-200 owners around Beach Cove participated, according to DNREC.



## Inland Bays Channels

1. Lewes-Rehoboth Canal
2. Love Creek
3. Herring Creek
4. Guinea Creek
5. Rehoboth Bay Channel
6. Massey's Ditch
7. Indian River Inlet and Bay Channel
8. Pepper Creek
9. Vines Creek
10. Beach Cove
11. White Creek
12. Assawoman Canal
13. Miller Creek
14. Dirickson Creek
15. Little Assawoman Bay Channel
16. The Ditch
17. Roy Creek

**“The Beach Cove channel is not included within our 3-year dredge planning horizon.”**

- Jesse Hayden, DNREC

**The headline, according to Mr. Hayden:** “The Beach Cove channel is not included within our 3-year dredge planning horizon, and we currently don't have any projection beyond that timeframe for future dredge projects. The next major navigation maintenance project is expected to be White Creek, which we anticipate executing in fall/winter 2021.”

Mr. Hayden continued: “I want to emphasize that we share your concerns about boater safety. Even though dredging is not currently planned, our team is taking actions aimed at protecting public safety including collecting depth survey data such as those included in the attached map, and maintaining the channel

markers. This year, our team replaced three buoys and five smaller 4-inch PVC poles in the Beach Cove channel with brand new 6-inch PVC poles with new signage, and our survey team verified the location of all markers to ensure they mark the channel accurately.”

In the email exchange with QPHA, Mr. Hayden also summarized the now-completed priorities evaluation process this way: “Our prioritization project wrapped up last month [July, 2020] with an interim priority ranking along with recommendations on next steps our team will take as we revisit the methodology and rankings each year. Your membership may recall if they attended one of the project workshops or participated in the stakeholder survey, our data driven

**“We... hope to have more information by the end of the calendar year.”**

- Jesse Hayden, DNREC

prioritization considers the following parameters (in no particular order): dredging history, major channels connecting bodies of water, number of existing marinas/boat docks on a channel, number of public and/or publicly accessible (pay to use) boat ramps on a channel, availability of upland confined sediment storage facilities near a channel, options for beneficial use of dredge material, environmental impacts, economics, safety, and navigability.”

DNREC provided this map, illustrating the depth measurements taken through the channel from Indian River Bay to Beach Cove. Note that the state did not survey depths of the waters immediately adjacent to Quillen’s Point’s marina or community shoreline.

DNREC also pointed QPHA to [this website](#), and [this website](#), which contain a summary of the agency’s survey process and results, and include several informational posters about dredging.

